

Implications of making short forms available electronically

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ISO TC184/SC4 Meeting

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SC4 Action Item from Lillehammer

- SC4 Action Item Background
 - Lillehammer SC4 Meeting WG3, WG12, and QC Conveners
 - Conveners did not see the final AI wording
- SC4 Action Item
 - The practical implications of making every AP short form available electronically

Current Status

- Topic has been discussed in WG3 and WG12
- Short form and long form are normative
- Short form is mainly used for SDAI applications
- Some APs already make the short form available in an “electronic annex”
- Several concerns and some proposals

Concerns

- Additional file maintenance on SOLIS
- Need to extract SF from current APs
- Changes to standing documents
 - Supplementary Directives
 - AP Guidelines
- Using short form requires knowledge of the versions of the schemas referenced
 - Need to publish caveats

Concerns

- Different tools can generate different long forms
 - Proliferation of non-standard long forms
 - Claims of identified errors are sometimes based on usage of outdated versions of schemas
 - False alarm generates a lot of work with no benefit
 - secretariat
 - working groups

Proposal

- AP developers specify the conditions under which the short form was successfully compiled
- All schemas shall contain a comment header with the version identifier
- Include version identifier in file name on SOLIS
- Each long form shall contain a header comment with:
 - the versions of all short forms used
 - the short-to-long processor and version used
 - any manual changes made to the generated long form

Proposal (cont.)

- Anyone submitting a SEDS report on a problem with a short form shall specify the version of the short form and the conditions under which the short form was used
- Conditions to be Reported
 - Version identifier of the schema containing the short form
 - Version identifier of all schemas referenced directly or indirectly
 - Processor and version used

Version Identification Options

- WG N-number
- Part number, edition and ballot stage
- Abstract Syntax Notation (ASN) number
- Special version numbering scheme

Recommendation: Use WG N-number*

* Until SC4 implements a configuration management system

Example

```
SCHEMA my_schema;  
(*  
this schema is ISO TC184/SC4/WG3 N789;  
test_schema is ISO TC184/SC4/WG12 N842;  
test2_schema is ISO TC184/SC4/JWG9 N65;  
*)  
USE FROM test_schema --ISO 10303-77  
(an_entity);  
USE FROM test2_schema --ISO 10303-99  
(another_entity);  
...
```

Error in entity test schema entity: ...

Conditions:

Version of schema where error occurred: ISO TC184/SC4/ WG3 N789

Referenced schemas and versions: test_schema is ISO TC184/SC4/WG12 N842

test2_schema is ISO TC184/SC4/ JWG9 N65

Processor, version and platform used: STEPforward version 7.5.1 on Windows NT 4.0